

**FIRST BRETHREN CHURCH OF GOSHEN.**

The first Brethren church of Goshen, Elkhart county, Ind., was organized Wednesday, March 17, by Rev. G. W. Rench, State Evangelist for Indiana. The following officers were elected: Trustees, Guilford Leslie, Jacob Hazel, Wm. H. Wagoner; Treasurer, Mrs. J. A. Riley; Clerk, H. J. Schrock; Elder, Rev. C. F. Yoder; Deacons, H. J. Schrock and Wm. H. Wagoner.

A Sunday-school has been organized with brother J. A. Riley, Superintendent, and Alma Leslie, Secretary.

A Prayer Meeting, S. S. C. E., and Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, senior and junior, will be organized at once.

At the solicitation of several brethren of Goshen and vicinity, we visited them the first Monday in November and held a meeting at the home of brother Guilford Leslie, brother H. J. Schrock and wife only being present, except family of Bro. Leslie. A committee consisting of brethren Leslie, Schrock and Fryman was appointed to secure a suitable place in which services could be held. After much difficulty and many disappointments, Sheridan Hall, corner of Main and Clinton streets, was secured and leased for one year with the option of two additional years. The hall was not seated, but the brethren at once secured lumber and themselves seated the hall creditably and comfortably.

On Monday evening, March 1, we began our services. Very few were present the first evening. The second service was much better attended. On Wednesday we were joined by brother C. F. Yoder and planned for each day's services as follows:

Each afternoon at 2:30; Bible Reading and Prayer Service, 7; Preaching, 7:30. These services were continued almost five weeks which resulted in *thirty* additions to the church, which with the number of brethren already in Goshen and vicinity, makes a membership of at least sixty members.

Thus the work has been opened. It is a very promising field. We know that many more will unite when a pastor is secured. Attempts are being made to secure one. As a church we have the confidence of the people. The field is a clear and clean one. The thing now needed is some one to take hold of the work and push it. The members are earnest and devoted and will stand by any one who may come into the field to labor.

They have already shown their disposition to work, and assisted nobly in the services. We would make special mention of Bro. Wagoner and his son and daughter who rendered us much good music, and

brethren W. J. and Jacob Hazel who kept the house in such good condition. May God bless them. The work will be kept up by us until a pastor is secured.

This is but one of many such points in our brotherhood. A little sacrifice on the part of churches already established is all that is needed to open them up. Two or three pastors can easily co-operate and center upon one such point. Notice also this work was done in the city. Our hall is centrally located. We must go to the centers of population. The drift is from country to city, and we must go also.

"Is not the doctrine a barrier?" some one asks. No! we have not found it so. If doctrine and polity were synonymous, and our polity would be as the doctrine we now defend and practice, it no doubt would be a *barrier*. A brother said once, "The Brethren church has a scriptural precedent for its every action." So it has; so we claim and preach. The doctrines are not *non-ordained*. They are a part of the glorious gospel of the Son of God. So we are not ashamed of them.

May God help us to look out; to look up; to carry this Gospel out into new centres and uphold it; to push out into regions beyond—home.

Fraternally,

WM. D. FURRY

JENNY LIND, CAL.

At the last business meeting held at the Chaparral District on March 15, it was the sincere wish of the few members there to have the Brethren church reorganized. Brother John P. Wolfe acted as chairman of the meeting. After a few remarks from the chair the meeting proceeded as follows:

Meeting called to order by the chair with nine members present; singing No. 211 in Gospel Hymn; reading of the I Cor. 14:20; prayer by brother P. S. Garman; remarks on electing an elder. The members decided on brother John Wolfe to act until able to furnish one of our own. Letter read by the recording secretary which Brother Shank received from the Lathrop church, which was accepted. Next was the election of deacons. As brother S. W. Crewdson was deacon of the old organization, the members were willing to accept him as he stood to act as deacon. Miss Etta Crewdson was nominated secretary, and as there was no other nomination she was elected. Treasurer, Mrs. Lois B. Shank.

Next in order was to choose a minister. There were two nominated by ballot as follows: Brother Jacob Shank received six votes, and brother Wesley Wimer received three votes. As Bro. Shank received the majority he was chosen to act

as our present minister. After a few remarks Bro. Shank and wife, sister Lois B. Shank, were requested to take their seats side by side, and Bro. Shank received his charge as follows:

1. To baptize. 2. To preach. 3. To solemnize marriages. 4. To officiate at communion services. 5. To act as chairman at council called by consent of his helpers.

Brother Shank was received into the church by the laying on of the hands and prayer by brethren J. P. Wolfe and P. S. Garman. We also had the pleasure of electing brother Wesley Wimer as a delegate to represent us in the next State Conference, which is to be held at Vernalis April 8. After all business was closed the members adjourned to brother R. H. Stull's to attend to the anointing services of Mrs. M. A. Stull at 6:30. We as a church ask the prayers of the different churches that we may pray in return for success. Your sister in Christ,

ETTA CREWDSON.

**PROGRAM.**

Elkhart county Union Meeting to be held at Goshen, Ind., April 24, 25, 1897:

**SATURDAY FORENOON.**

- 10:00—Opening services, Rev. A. S. Menaugh.
- 10:30—Paper, Christian Enterprise, Mrs. Early.
- 10:35—Discussion led by Rev. W. D. Furry.
- 11:00—Paper, the advantages of co-operation with other churches, Phebe Swart.
- 11:05—Discussion, Mrs. Mary Miller. Song.
- 11:30—Paper, the idols we are likely to worship, Miss Pearl Leonard.
- 11:35—Discussion, Andrew Sigerfoos.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

- 1:30—Devotional service, Rev. L. O. Hubbard.
- 1:45—Address to the children, Rev. C. F. Yoder.
- 2:00—We are workers together, Guilford Leslie.
- Open parliament. Song.
- 2:30—Paper, the necessity of systematic giving, M. Brumbaugh.
- 2:35—Discussion, Rev. A. R. Bemberfer.
- 3:00—Introduction of the M. R. C., Rev. C. F. Yoder.
- 3:30—Written reports of churches and auxiliary societies.
- 7:30 P. M.—Communion service.

**SUNDAY FORENOON.**

- 8:30—Song and praise service, Rev. C. F. Yoder.